

HONORING MS. PRISCILLA
PENFOLD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Ms. Priscilla Penfold. Ms. Penfold served her constituency faithfully and justly during her tenure as a member of the Dunkirk Town Council.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Ms. Penfold served her term with her head held high and a smile on her face the entire way. I have no doubt that her kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Ms. Penfold is one of those people and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to her today.

RECOGNIZING HERITAGE
FARMSTEAD MUSEUM

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Heritage Farmstead Museum, a living-history museum in Texas' third congressional district which maintains an authentic look at 19th century life on the Blackland Prairie of North Texas.

The museum welcomes more than 30,000 visitors annually to its 4.5 acre working farm complex. Guests get a first-hand, educational look at old farming techniques, a blacksmith shop, an original school house, and the 14-room 1890 farmhouse which serves as the heart of the museum.

Heritage Farmstead's visitors range from classes of local school children learning about prairie life to Girl Scout troops on camping adventures and area residents enjoying the museum's Fall Harvest Festival.

Converted from a private home to a public museum in 1972, the Farmstead has been recognized by the Plano Landmark Association and the National Register of Historic Places. It also boasts a State of Texas Historical marker and was just recently reaccredited by the prestigious American Association of Museums.

This designation makes the Heritage Farmstead Museum one of only two accredited museums in Collin County, 39 in Texas, and only 775 nationwide, a tremendous accomplishment.

I am pleased to recognize this outstanding museum from my own hometown of Plano, Texas before the United States Congress today. For its tribute to our past through the education of our children, our future, I tip my hat to the AAM-reaccredited Heritage Farmstead Museum. Congratulations! God bless you, and I salute you.

HONORING DENNIS AND PHYLLIS
ENGER OF NORTH DAKOTA

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dennis and Phyllis Enger of Portland, North Dakota. Over the past several years Dennis and Phyllis have dedicated a significant portion of their time honoring and giving back to our Nation's heroes.

Dennis decided to take up woodworking in retirement; this led him to begin making walking sticks. Once he had a few sticks completed he decided to have Dan Stenvold, the President of the North Dakota Vietnam Veterans of America and the Mayor of Park River, to bring the completed sticks to Walter Reed to present to injured soldiers on one of his trips to Washington. This initial gift so touched the families of these soldiers that Dennis and Phyllis decided to continue making walking sticks for our returning soldiers.

The dedication of the Engers to giving back to our soldiers is truly remarkable and deserves to be applauded. The care and attention to detail on each of these walking sticks is remarkable; Dennis and Phyllis travel around the state to pick up scrap wood and work for more than 20 hours on each one. Their efforts have been aided by the Boy Scouts in Portland and the North Dakota Vietnam Veterans who have provided help with funds and help sanding the rough walking sticks. These gifts to our wounded soldiers have deeply touched and are deeply appreciated by those that have received them.

The work of individuals like Dennis and Phyllis Enger who work tirelessly and selflessly to honor our veterans is worthy of our highest respect. I stand today to honor their service and to give my thanks on behalf of the people of North Dakota.

HONORING FRANK P. CALESTINO

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize an exemplary federal employee from my district, Frank Caletino. Representing the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Mr. Caletino works as the Deputy Director of Intelligence for the Afghan Threat Finance Cell. This is a unique, interagency effort to disrupt the flow of funding from the Afghan opium trade and other terrorist resources. Afghanistan poses a unique threat to our national security and it will take more than military presence to stabilize the region.

The nonprofit, nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service declared Mr. Caletino to be one of 32 finalists for the prestigious Service to America Medals—or Sammies—in 2010. These awards are granted to outstanding federal employees who have made significant contributions to our nation.

Final selection of eight candidates will be made on September 15, and will also include the Partnership for Public Service's announcement of the Federal Employee of the Year. I

am very proud to call Mr. Caletino one of my constituents and I wish him the best of luck in the final announcement and all of his future endeavors.

ELECTRON BOY

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank a special young man, Erik Martin, who helped save the day in Seattle and buoy the spirits of every person who watched or heard of his heroic actions.

Erik, pressed into service by a distress call from Spiderman, transformed into Electron Boy at a moment's notice. He helped release trapped Seattle Sounders FC players at Qwest Field in Seattle, saved a Puget Sound Energy employee stuck in his bucket truck in Bellevue, and then raced back to Seattle to help dozens of people trapped at the top of the Space Needle by his arch nemesis Dr. Dark and Blackout Boy. Electron Boy saved the day and we were all in awe.

Madam Speaker, Erik, Electron Boy, is often unable to get out of bed because of his struggles with liver cancer. No matter how brave and strong Electron Boy is, sometimes even he needs a little more rest. Thankfully, the morning Spiderman needed his special talents, he immediately leapt into action and acted heroically. We can't thank him enough.

Although Electron Boy did most of the work, Madam Speaker, he did have a little help. Therefore, I want to thank the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Seattle Sounders FC, the King County Sheriff's office, the Bellevue Police Department, Puget Sound Energy and everyone else who helped clear the way to make Electron Boy's heroism a reality. Madam Speaker, Erik Martin is a hero and this whole House thanks him for his ability to transform into Electron Boy. Perhaps one day Electron Boy will come to Washington, DC to save lives. Erik commented that his day of heroic actions was the best day of his life. Well, Madam Speaker, I'm thankful Erik had such a great day because it helped millions of others have a great day as well.

HONORING JUDGE RAUL VASQUEZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Judge Raul Vasquez, a recent award recipient of the Liberty Bell Award in Webb County of South Texas. Judge Vasquez is currently completing his third term as the 111th District Court Judge in Laredo, Texas.

Judge Vasquez is a highly respected and distinguished jurist. He has served the youth of our community and dedicated his sense of justice and fairness to dispose of cases efficiently. His accomplished efforts towards devoting his life to the judiciary have had a great impact and truly benefit the people of South Texas.